



**Steven W. Troxler**  
Commissioner

**North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services**  
*Plant Industry Division*

**Phillip L. Wilson**  
Director

**Joy A. Goforth**  
Plant Pest Administrator

**Brian D. Bowers**  
Seed and Fertilizer  
Administrator

**Declaration of Interior Quarantine for the Guava Root Knot Nematode, *Meloidogyne enterolobii*.**

**Statutory Authority:** North Carolina Plant Pest Law (*Article 36, Chapter 106 of the General Statutes of North Carolina*)

**Interior Quarantine:** The Commissioner of Agriculture, the Plant Industry Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS), and the Plant Pest Administrator hereby immediately establish an interior quarantine for the Guava Root Knot Nematode, *Meloidogyne enterolobii*, for all counties in North Carolina.

**Regulated Articles:** For the purposes of this quarantine, the following articles are designated as regulated articles:

- (1) The Guava Root Nematode, *Meloidogyne enterolobii* in any living stage of development.
- (2) Sweet potato seed or sweet potato plants with or without roots produced in the state.
- (3) Soil and equipment determined to pose a risk of moving *Meloidogyne enterolobii* outside the quarantine area.
- (4) Any article, product, or means of conveyance when it is determined by the Plant Pest Administrator to present a risk of spread of the *Meloidogyne enterolobii*.

## Conditions Governing the Movement of Regulated Articles

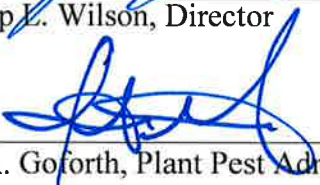
- (a) **Regulated Articles - Interstate Movement** -All regulated articles are prohibited from movement when transiting outside of North Carolina to other non-quarantined states unless meeting the following conditions:
- All sweet potato seed must be certified free of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* with a blue tag issued by the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association or other approved certifying agency.
  - All sweet potato plants must be certified by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Plant Industry Division, as being free of soil and roots prior to movement from the quarantine area.
  - Ornamental sweet potato cuttings and plants produced in soilless media will be grown under a state Compliance Agreement according to prescribed protocols.
- (b) **Regulated Article Production and Intrastate Movement** – All regulated articles are prohibited from transiting in North Carolina unless the following conditions are met:
- Henceforth commercial sweet potato plants for production moving intrastate must be produced and sold under compliance with NCDA&CS – Plant Industry Division and be certified apparently free of soil and roots prior to distribution.
  - Effective immediately, sweet potato seed moving intrastate must be produced and sold under compliance with NCDA&CS- Plant Industry Division and be certified apparently free of *Meloidogyne enterolobii* prior to distribution.
  - Beginning September 1, 2020, all sweet potato seed produced and distributed through intrastate sales in North Carolina must be produced and sold under compliance with NCDA&CS- Plant Industry Division and be accompanied by a blue tag issued by the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association or other approved certifying agency.
  - Henceforth all sweet potato packers, shippers and/or brokers must be under compliance with NCDA&CS – Plant Industry Division.
- (c) **Scientific Permits**-Scientific permits may be issued by NCDA&CS' Plant Pest Administrator to allow the movement of the Guava Root Knot Nematode, *Meloidogyne enterolobii*, in any living stage or any regulated articles for scientific purposes under such conditions as may be prescribed in each specific case by the Plant Pest Administrator.
- (d) **Compliance Agreements**- As a condition of issuance of certificates or permits for the movement of regulated articles, any person engaged in purchasing, assembling, exchanging, handling, processing, utilizing, treating or moving such articles may be required to sign a compliance agreement stipulating that he or she will maintain such safeguards against the establishment and dissemination and comply with such conditions as to the maintenance of identity, handling and subsequent movement of such articles and the cleaning and treatment of means of conveyance and containers used in the transportation of such articles as may be required by the inspector.

**The regulated areas shall be enforced under and in accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Plant Pest Law, Article 36 of Chapter 106 of the North Carolina General Statutes (including G.S. 106-423.1)**

This the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

  
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Steven W. Troxler, Commissioner

  
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Phillip L. Wilson, Director

  
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Joy A. Goforth, Plant Pest Administrator